



H.R. 1803 – San Diego Water Storage and Efficiency Act of 2007

FLOOR SITUATION

H.R. 1803 is being considered on the floor under suspension of the rules and will require a two-thirds majority vote for passage. This legislation was introduced by Representative Duncan Hunter (R-CA) on March 29, 2007. The bill was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources but was never considered by the Committee.

H.R. 1803 is expected to be considered on the floor of the House of Representatives on October 22, 2007.

**Note – Similar legislation was introduced in the 109th Congress by Representative Duncan Hunter (H.R. 1190). This legislation passed under suspension of the rules by voice vote on March 8, 2006. The Senate did not take any action.*

SUMMARY

H.R. 1803 directs the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a feasibility study to design and construct a four reservoir intertie system for the purposes of improving the water storage opportunities, water supply reliability, and water yield of San Vicente, El Capitan, Murray, and Loveland Reservoirs in San Diego County, California. This study will be conducted in consultation and cooperation with the City of San Diego and the Sweetwater Authority.

There is authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary \$3,000,000 for the Federal cost share of the study authorized.

BACKGROUND

The Sweetwater Authority is the third largest water retailer in San Diego County and serves residential and commercial customers in Chula Vista, National City, and Bonita, California. In cooperation with the City of San Diego, the Authority operates a number of reservoirs. The Authority and the City of San Diego are requesting federal assistance to examine the feasibility of connecting four of those reservoirs (San Vicente, El Capitan, Loveland, and Murray) to make more efficient use of storage capacity.

The Loveland and El Capitan reservoirs receive local runoff along with some imported water, but are rarely filled. On average, the reservoirs are at approximately 25 percent

capacity. This available capacity could be put to beneficial use if imported water could be piped to the reservoirs.

COST

At the time of publication the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) has not yet scored this legislation.

STAFF CONTACT

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